

# CONCORDIA COUNCIL ON STUDENT LIFE

## MINUTES OF A MEETING HELD IN ROOM 769 OF THE HALL BUILDING, SIR GEORGE WILLIAMS CAMPUS AT 5:15 P.M. ON APRIL 2, 1979

Present: Prof. F. W. Bedford, Chairman  
Dean B. Counihan, Dr. E. Enos, Dean M. Flynn, Mr. F. Denton, Mr. B. Philip, Ms. J. Richardson, Mr. D. Insleay, Rev. R. Gaudet, S. J., Ms. N. Cullen, Prof. R. Allison, Prof. W. Gilsdorf, Prof. A. Riding, Prof. R. Wills, Prof. J. Macaluso, Mr. M. Eson, Mr. M. D'Ganigian, Mr. A. Lajoie, Ms. H. Obermeir, Mr. P. Sauer, Mr. M. Wiemann, Mr. J. Lacombe, Mr. C. A. Duff, Mrs. N. Cooper, Secretary.

Alternate: Mr. J. Goldner for Mr. J. A. Sproule

Absent: Mr. O. El-Awadi, Mr. A. Manessy, Mr. A. Arsenault, Ms. A. Grant, Mr. W. Muloin, Ms. M. Eberlin, Mr. S. Lawee, Mr. R. Sharma.

Guests: Rev. M. Terho, Rev. R. Nagy and representatives of the Sir George Williams Ethnic Clubs.

### Chairman's Remarks

- 1.0 The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. He read a letter from Father Gaudet thanking Council for a book sent to him in hospital.
- 1.1 Prof. Bedford announced that he had received a letter from Mr. Chan, dated March 27, 1979, regarding Student Life Awards for 1978/79. It had been decided that, as any permanent structure for Commemorative Awards might be viewed as a precedent for future years, implementation of the concept would be postponed until next year.
- 1.2 The Chairman drew the attention of members to item 2.0 of the Minutes of March 19 correcting the Minutes of the meeting held on February 19, 1979.
- 1.3 Prof. Bedford welcomed the guests to the meeting.

### Approval of Minutes of meeting held on March 19, 1979

- 2.0 Father Gaudet questioned item 7.2 concerning redistribution of unexpended salary monies by the Priorities and Budget Committee. Prof. Macaluso drew attention to item 7.3 regarding quarterly reports relating to the level of expenditures in each area. He believed that taken in that context the resolution would make sense. Mr. Duff pointed out that any monies remaining in the student services budget at the end of a year is carried forward to the following year.
- 2.1 With regard to the motion respecting the adoption of the Minutes contained in item 2.0 Prof. Macaluso requested that his abstention be recorded.
- 2.2 On MOTION of Mr. Lajoie, which was duly SECONDED, the Minutes of the meeting held on March 19, 1979 were ADOPTED with the above Amendment.

Business Arising from the Minutes

3.0 Emergency Loan Fund, item 5.3(c) and 7.1 of the Minutes of March 19, 1979

Discussion took place on ways and means of raising \$10,000 for the Emergency Loan Fund and several suggestions including a raffle and a booster game were made. Father Gaudet reported that a skatathon had been successful in raising money for the Blind Institute. Dean Flynn volunteered with Dr. Enos to act as a Committee of two to work on a plan to put forward for raising the money.

Reports of Area Directors

4.0 In addition to distributing a written report, Dr. Enos reported that the Intercollegiate Awards Night was held on March 28, the Intramural Awards Night will take place April 4.

4.1 Dean Flynn reported having had several meetings with the ethnic clubs and Campus Ministry. The Ethnic/Cultural Clubs have made a report to the Priorities and Budget Committee. Mr. Insleay is a member of PRET and Dean Flynn felt that it would be productive to have a report on developments at an early meeting in the Fall. In connection with the program for handicapped students, the Dean reported having received a cheque from an anonymous doner in the amount of \$1500.

4.2 There was no report from Guidance Services or the Dean of Students, Loyola.

5.0 Sous-comité vie étudiante (SCVE) - Mr. Insleay. No report.

6.0 Report of Steering Committee

- a) As Prof. Gilsdorf is going on sabbatical in January 1980, he requested that he be replaced on Council. Prof. Bedford, at the request of Steering Committee, obtained the consent of Prof. John Harrison, Communication Arts, Loyola to accept nomination.

It was MOVED by Prof. Macaluso, SECONDED by Mr. Lajoie

"THAT Prof. John Harrison of the Loyola Campus be appointed to replace Prof. W. Gilsdorf for the remainder of his term, which expires April 30, 1980."

MOTION CARRIED.

b) Chairman of Council 1979/80 term

Prof. Bedford reported that the Committee had proposed several names for the chairmanship of Council including Father McDonough of the Campus Ministry, Sir George Williams Campus. Father McDonough could not be consulted as he was in hospital. Two other nominations were Mr. Alain Lajoie and Prof. Roland Wills. Dean Flynn and Prof. Macaluso believed that although Father McDonough would be an excellent candidate, his name should be withdrawn for health reasons. Prof. Wills stated that, while he would allow his name to stand for democratic reasons, he was in favour of having a student Chairman of Council. Mr. Eson nominated Prof. Macaluso, who declined.

It was then MOVED by Ms. Richardson, SECONDED by Dr. Enos and RESOLVED THAT nominations be closed.

A secret ballot was then held with Mr. Duff, a non-voting member, acting as scrutineer. Prof. Wills was elected as Chairman for 1979/80.

Report of Priorities and Budget Committee

- 7.0 Mr. Macaluso stated that the report of the Priorities and Budget Committee, (CCSL Doc. 79-2-D4) tabled on February 19 had provoked responses, reaction, misunderstanding, negativity and misgivings. The Committee therefore wished to clarify the report. He regretted that the recommendations on student services had received more attention than the five important and fundamental recommendations on student life - the advisory system, the simplified procedures manual, the orientation and support programme for undergraduates, the two-hour student programs time and the clean-up and redecoration of living spaces on both campuses. Mr. Macaluso asked if Council was prepared to deal with these five student life recommendations.
- 7.1 With respect to the ten recommendations regarding student services, the Committee now felt that its assumption regarding enrolment decreases should be seriously questioned and plans to approach Messrs. Adams, Hamblin and Whitelaw for more information before making a final recommendation to Council. Because of the time of year and complexity of the study, the earliest realistic date for a second written report to Council will be December. Regular progress reports will however continue.
- 7.2 Prof. Macaluso then MOVED, SECONDED by Mr. Lajoie
- "THAT Priorities and Budget Committee be constituted as a Task Force of CCSL in order to solicit and receive reports and responses from the Community on the Student Services recommendations contained in Document CCSL-79-2-D4 over the next months; and
- THAT the Task Force meet and make itself available upon call to all interested persons and groups in the University community; and
- THAT the Task Force study and deal with any further recommendations generated as a result of its deliberations and consultations."
- 7.3 The Chairman then requested the consent of Council to have a spokesman from the Ethnic Groups present address the meeting.
- Mr. Agop Der Khatchadurian, representing the International Student Association stated that meetings had been held with the Dean of Students, Sir George Williams Campus, and the Chairman of the Priorities and Budget Committee. The association is unanimous that any decision regarding structure or place in the University should rest with them. He then stated the following:
- 1) The International Students' Association totally oppose Recommendation six of the Priorities and Budget Committee of the CCSL and any attempt thereof eliminating or partially cutting the financing by the University of the International Associations.

- 2) All of the associations feel that financial restrictions will eventually lead to the closure of the associations. Hence they find it absolutely essential that the University continue financing the associations and that no other guarantees are acceptable.
- 3) The associations find it completely illogical that the said committee finds it a priority to cut off the overall budget of all the associations of approximately \$16,000 which is less than 1% of the budget allocated to the CCSL. Furthermore, the budget allocated by the CCSL to all the associations is comparable to or less than the salary of a single employee.
- 4) The associations feel that they have effectively contributed to the student life of the University more than any other single student representative body. They feel that this fact was totally ignored by the committee in preparing its recommendations. Furthermore, the special ethnic character of each of the associations has enriched the cultural exchange of the University students, much to the same effect of the multiculturalist tendencies of the Canadian Government.
- 5) All of the associations have tried to function within the provided budgets without complaint. They have never made serious attempts to ask for higher budgets from the University having in mind the recent financial status of our University. The associations feel that their honesty and understanding has been perceived as a sign of weakness.

In the discussion which followed it became apparent that the whole question would require further study in light of the probable formation of one Concordia-wide student association. Mr. Macaluso emphasized the importance of the dialogue that had been initiated and expressed the hope that this would encourage other areas of the University community to respond to the recommendations of the Priorities and Budget Committee.

7.4 Prof. Allison asked if postponing action on these recommendations would affect the budget for 1980/81. Prof. Macaluso pointed out the importance of not rushing decisions which might have adverse consequences. The Directorate, he stated, has agreed to present a five-year projection to his Committee. This will provide a clearer picture for the future. Mr. Duff emphasized that if decisions regarding priorities are not made until December it may be too late to alter contractual decisions within the University.

7.5 Prof. Gilsdorf reiterated his position vis à vis consideration of budget matters without prior study of priorities. He also felt it unfair to people named to postpone decisions concerning their future.

An AMENDMENT was therefore MOVED by Prof. Gilsdorf, SECONDED by Mr. Eson:-

"THAT there be a report from the Task Force to CCSL at the October meeting."

In the discussion which followed it was pointed out that many other areas, including the CCSL budget, could be eliminated or cut. It was felt however that major changes in Council membership will require time in the Fall for new members to become familiar with the workings of Council.

The Chairman then called the question on the Amendment.

MOTION DEFEATED.

- 7.6 Some members expressed misgivings about the advisability of the four directors sitting on the Priorities and Budget Committee. The advantage of having directors present for information purposes was however recognized. It was suggested that the Task Force endeavor to have department heads present when discussion of a department's program or budget takes place.

In reply to a question concerning the possibility of dealing with some priority items at an earlier date, Mr. Macaluso stated that recommendations dealing with full time personnel will require more time, whereas those which involve an alternate means of financing might be dealt with sooner.

- 7.7. Prof. Gilsdorf proposed another AMENDMENT to change the composition of the Task Force and the Budget and Priorities Committee. There being no seconder, no further discussion took place.
- 7.8 Discussion then took place on the Motion contained in item 7.2. Prof. Macaluso stated that the Committee felt the resolution concerning the formation of the Task Force was necessary to reconfirm the mandate regarding priorities of the Budget and Priorities Committee and enable it to seek information from outside the student services area. Mr. Lajoie reiterated that the recommendations in the document had originated with the directors.

It was MOVED by Prof. Gilsdorf, SECONDED by Mr. Lajoie and RESOLVED

"THAT the question be called".

The Chairman called the question contained in item 7.2.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Macaluso thanked Council for its support and stated that the Committee will keep lead-time in mind when making recommendations. He reiterated his intention of proposing a standard format for budget presentations.

#### Any Other Business

- 8.0 It was MOVED by Mr. Lacombe, SECONDED by Mr. Eson

"WHEREAS the ethnic associations form an important segment of the University;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the ethnic associations of Concordia University form a Task Force to study their place in the University and report to CCSL in the 1979/80 academic year".

In the discussion which followed, Mr. Lacombe clarified that reporting would be through proper channels. Dean Flynn stated that it is apparent that the ethnic clubs are planning to study this matter. He has been asked to sit on the Task Force which will report to the Priorities and Budget Committee.

An AMENDMENT was then PROPOSED by Mr. Lajoie, SECONDED by Mr. Sauer

"THAT anyone in the University could set up a Task Force to submit a report to CCSL".

As the consensus of the meeting was that the motion and amendment were redundant, the movers and seconders WITHDREW both the MOTION and the AMENDMENT.

In answer to a question, Mr. Khatchadurian was assured by the Chairman that, should a conflict arise between the ethnic associations and the Priorities and Budget Committee, the associations would be granted the privilege of making a presentation directly to Council. Prof. Macaluso emphasized that it would be advantageous for members of Council to become involved with input from the Community, reminding members that presentations made to Council must be documented.

- 8.1 On behalf of the members of Council Dean Flynn expressed appreciation to Prof. Bedford for the two years he had served as Chairman of CCSL, congratulating him on his leadership and sensitivity.

Prof. Macaluso wished a vote of appreciation to go on record to the secretary for her services to Council.

- 8.2 The Chairman invited members of Council to meet with him in the Faculty Club to close off the year.

Date and Place of Next Meeting

Prof. Bedford stated that the next meeting of Council is scheduled for September. It was then duly MOVED and SECONDED that the meeting adjourn at 7 p.m.